

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The final Office Action dated April 7, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-20 are currently pending, of which claims 12-20 have been withdrawn from the consideration due to an earlier restriction requirement. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0026335, Moon '335 in view of KR 2001-0111863, Moon '863; rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon '335 in view of Moon '863 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0012085, Honda; rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon '335 in view of Moon '863 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0036735, Arakawa.

The rejection of claims 1-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon '335 in view of Moon '863 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...wherein the CCF layer has the same circular polarization direction as the first circular polarization direction..." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2-7 and 11, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

On page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner states,

"Moon '335 discloses the CCF layer (Figure 4 element 200) as transmitting left handed circularly polarized light (Page 3 [0045]; Figure 4). Moon '335 discloses the first cholesteric liquid crystal polarizing layer (Figure 4 element 150) as also transmitting left handed circularly polarized light (Page 3 [0042]). Accordingly, the CCF layer and the first cholesteric liquid crystal polarizing layer have a same first circular polarization direction."

The Examiner's attention is directed to the present application at paragraph [0011], which discloses that "[t]he CLC molecules twisted with a right-handed helical direction reflect only right-handed circularly polarized light, while the CLC molecules twisted with a left-handed helical direction reflect only left-handed circularly polarized light." In Fig. 4 of Moon '335, the first CLC layer 150 has a right-handed helical direction as it transmits left handed circularly polarized light. However, if the CCF layer 200 has a right-handed helical direction, the same polarization direction as the first CLC layer 150, then all R, G and B left handed circularly polarized light would pass through the CCF layer 200, which would destroy the function of a color filter layer. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that as best understood, the polarization direction of the first CLC layer 150 in Fig. 4 of Moon' 335 is not the same as the polarization direction of the CCF layer 200.

The rejection of claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon '335 in view of Moon '863 and Honda is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Applicant respectfully submits that since Honda fails to cure the deficient teachings of Moon '335 and Moon '863, claims 8 and 9 are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon '335 in view of Moon '863 and Arakawa is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Applicant respectfully submits that since Arakawa fails to cure the deficient teachings of Moon '335 and Moon '863, claims 8 and 9 are allowable over the cited references.

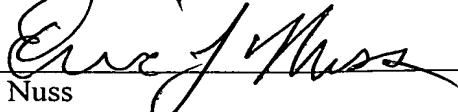
Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37

C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: July 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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